UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.5/48/74/Add.1
7 July 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-eighth session
FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda item 123

# PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1994-1995

## Revised estimates under sections 3, 8 and 33

## Africa: critical economic situation, recovery and development

## Report of the Secretary-General

1. The Fifth Committee, at its 68th meeting, on 21 June 1994, recommended to the General Assembly that it request the Secretary-General to prepare a draft programme budget section to include activities mandated under programme 45 of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, entitled "Africa, critical economic situation, recovery and development", currently administered under section 8 of the programme budget, to include in the draft budget section any proposals for additional activities together with proposals for the redeployment of appropriate resources and to submit it to the Assembly no later than 10 July 1994. The draft programme budget section is included in the annex to the present report.

2. In addition to the activities and resources approved under section 8 for the Office of the Special Coordinator for Africa and the Least Developed Countries, the draft programme budget section also includes activities and resources proposed by the Secretary-General in A/C.5/48/74 in response to the request contained in General Assembly resolution 48/228 A of 23 December 1993, that the Secretary-General consider the creation of a new budget section relating to the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s. The activities proposed in response to resolution 48/228 A are underlined in the narrative of the proposed new section. The proposed redeployment of funds to permit the creation of a new section and for additional activities in response to resolution 48/228 A would be as follows:

| | | $ |
|---|---|---|
| Section 3: | Department of Political Affairs | (428 500) |
| Section 8: | Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development | (3 102 400) |
| Section 33: | Africa: critical economic situation, recovery and development | 3 530 900 |
| | Total: | - |

ANNEX

Section 33: Africa: critical economic situation, recovery and development

(draft)

CONTENTS

| | Page |
|---|---|
| Overview ..... | 4 |
| Programme of work ..... | 6 |

OVERVIEW

33.1. The legislative authority for the activities under this section is derived from programme 45, Africa: critical economic situation, recovery and development, of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, as revised (A/47/6/Rev.1). The activities fall under one of five overall priorities of the medium-term plan. The activities will focus on implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development in Africa in 1990s. The Secretary-General was entrusted with responsibilities to follow up, monitor and evaluate the implementation of the New Agenda.

33.2. It will be recalled that by its resolution 45/253 of 21 December 1990, the General Assembly, acting upon the recommendation of the Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC) at its thirtieth session, in 1990, established a separate programme in the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 - programme 45, Africa: critical economic situation, recovery and development. By the same resolution, the Assembly designated the programme as one of the five overall priorities of the medium-term plan. By its resolution 46/185 B of 20 December 1991 on the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993, the Assembly, acting upon the recommendation of CPC at its thirty-first session, approved the proposal to establish a separate, identifiable and visible unit for Africa within the former Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation. The Assembly also approved the proposal that the implementation of a number of specific activities under the programme be assigned to the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the Department of Public Information. Initially, the Office of the Director-General provided overall coordination and leadership. ECA exercised team leadership and responsibility for coordination and cooperation at the regional level in the implementation of the programme. The Department of Public Information was responsible for a special programme for highlighting Africa's economic concerns.

33.3. Following the adoption in December 1991 of the New Agenda, contained in annex II to General Assembly resolution 46/151 of 18 December 1991, programme 45 was revised to integrate fully all elements of the New Agenda. The broad priority of the programme in the context of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, as revised, was further reaffirmed by the Assembly in its resolution 48/214 of 23 December 1993.

33.4. A new dimension to the United Nations responsibilities in coordinating the efforts of the international community in development of Africa has been added in the System-wide Plan of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 47/214 of 23 December 1993 on programme planning. The revisions to the System-wide Plan of Action were reviewed by CPC at its thirty-fourth session, in May 1994. In its conclusions and recommendations the Committee, inter alia, underscored the need for urgent and concerted action to address the grave economic situation in Africa.

33.5. Activities under this heading will be aimed at assisting the Secretary-General to discharge the responsibilities entrusted to him in the implementation of the New Agenda; to undertake the activities described in programme 45; and to coordinate the implementation of the System-wide Plan of Action. They will also

promote the United Nations interrelated programmes on Africa: critical economic situation, recovery and development, as well as assisting in the mobilization of financial resources for the continent and highlighting new issues on Africa's economic and social development.

33.6. The activities under subprogramme 1 of this section will be implemented by the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development through the Office of the Special Coordinator for Africa and the Least Developed Countries. That Office was established in the course of the restructuring of the Secretariat during the biennium 1992-1993, with a view to strengthening of the institutional structure for the programme. The Office is headed by a Secretariat official at the D-2 level who reports to the Head of the Department. This arrangement provides, through the Under-Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development, effective high-level leadership and coordination of the activities within the United Nations system, including regional commissions, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and other programmes, funds and agencies of the system and the Bretton Woods institutions, on implementation of the programmed activities.

33.7. In discharging its responsibilities, the Department will work closely with ECA and the Department of Public Information, which are responsible for implementation of the programme of activities in their respective areas. The activities of ECA and the Department of Public Information and related resources form part of this section and programmed under subprogrammes 2 and 3 respectively.

33.8. Distribution of the regular budget requirements for implementation of programme 45 during the biennium 1994-1995 within this section between subprogrammes and by the implementing unit would be as follows:

| Structure of programme 45 | Implementing Unit | Posts | Other objects of expenditure (thousands of United States dollars) | Distribution of resources (percentage) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Subprogramme 1. | Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development | One D-2, one D-1, one P-5, one P-4, one P-3, three General Service | 525.5 | 56.2 |
| Subprogramme 2. | Economic Commission for Africa | One P-5 | 251.2 | 14.7 |
| Subprogramme 3. | Department of Public Information | One P-5, one P-3, two General Service | 431.5 | 29.1 |
| | Total | Eight Professional, five General Service | 1 208.2 | 100.0 |

PROGRAMME OF WORK

Subprogramme 1. Mobilization of resources

33.9. During the biennium 1994-1995, the Office of the Special Coordinator, under the overall supervision of the Under-Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development, will continue to provide policy advice and leadership on African development issues and to that end to work for the inclusion of the priorities of the New Agenda in major international development policies and strategies, coordinating responses by the United Nations system at the policy and operational level; encouraging the international community to translate its commitment into concrete actions, particularly regarding increased financial flows to assist Africa; providing the necessary support for intergovernmental deliberations on African economic recovery and development; providing assistance and support in the organization, preparation, reporting and follow-up of ad hoc group meetings such as the Panel of High-Level Personalities on African Development and of inter-institutional meetings, such as the Organization of African Unity (OAU)/United Nations system meetings; establishing innovative and effective working relations with non-governmental organizations concerned with African economic recovery and development; undertaking with the Government of Japan and the Global Coalition for Africa an evaluation and follow-up to the Tokyo Declaration adopted by the Tokyo International Conference on African Development; undertaking a study on the linkage between peace and development, with a view to contributing to the formulation of an African mechanism for conflict prevention, management and resolution; and organizing workshops/round-table conferences on the priority elements of the New Agenda and on financial intermediation and mobilization of domestic resources for the development of the informal and African private sectors.

Activities

1. International cooperation (RB)

External relations: cooperation with contribution into activities of OAU and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations on issues highlighted in the New Agenda and the Tokyo Declaration concerning the African economic situation, recovery and development, as reflected in the System-wide Plan of Action; support to consultations of Member States, United Nations organizations and relevant financial institutions, including the World Bank, the African Development Bank, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and UNDP on the issues relating to the diversification of African economies.

2. Parliamentary services (RB)

(a) Parliamentary documentation: a report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the outcome of a study on financial intermediation systems, and practices in African countries with appropriate recommendations on their improvement; one report to CPC outlining revisions to be included in the System-wide Plan of Action on African Economic Recovery and Development; one report to the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council for its consideration in 1995 of the implementation of the New Agenda;

(b) Ad hoc expert groups: four meetings of the Secretary-General's Panel of High-Level Personalities on African Development and assistance to the Panel in preparation of its reports and 16 background documents on various subjects for consideration by the Panel; five subregional ad hoc expert groups on the promotion of priorities of the New Agenda. Themes to be discussed include capacity-building, development of the private sector, investment promotion, trade, diversification of economies, commodities and marketing of commodities.

3. Published material (RB)

(a) Non-recurrent publications: eight publications relating to migration flows within and outside Africa; external resource flows, a catalyst to African development; the Asian experience and African development; development of the informal sector in Africa; improvement of financial intermediation and mobilization of domestic resources for private-sector development in Africa; security and stability: a prerequisite for African development: towards an African mechanism for prevention, management and resolution of conflicts; main conclusions and recommendations of the Panel of High-Level Personalities; report on the causes and consequences of conflict on socio-economic development in Africa.

(b) Technical material: database on key elements of the New Agenda and compilation of brief country profiles and lists of officials; creation of a database for mailing and contact lists of officials in government, the private sector and inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations involved in African development; and active and limited documentation, including most recent reports, publications, newspapers, magazine and periodical cuttings on African development.

4. Information materials and services (RB)

New Agenda newsflash (monthly); promotional posters on the New Agenda; press releases prepared in collaboration with the Department of Public Information on matters relating to meetings of the Panel of High-Level Personalities on African Development, workshops and round-table conferences; and video material on various aspects of African development.

5. Operational activities

Organization, in cooperation with ECA, of workshops and seminars on South-South cooperation; on migration flows within and outside Africa; on financial intermediation and mobilization of domestic resources for the development of the informal and African private sectors; on foreign direct investment in Africa; an Asia-Africa seminar to enhance South-South cooperation, a priority area of the New Agenda, as a follow-up to the implementation of the Declaration adopted by the Tokyo International Conference on African Development and the New Agenda; a workshop to be held jointly with ECA and OAU on the practical means to apply the principles of the Tokyo Declaration in national development policies and programmes.

6. Coordination, harmonization, and liaison

Contribution to activities of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Africa's Critical Economic Situation, Recovery and Development and its Working Group.

Subprogramme 2: Monitoring, assessment, and follow-up of the implementation of action programmes, including their financial aspects

33.10. During the biennium 1994-1995, the subprogramme will address the issues of coordination and harmonization at the regional level of the contributions of various United Nations organizations to the implementation of the New Agenda, in the framework of activities of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Africa's Critical Economic Situation, Recovery and Development. It will also focus on the monitoring and follow-up of the achievements by African countries in the implementation of the New Agenda and the evolution of key factors pertaining to African economic recovery and development, including the resources aspects, and debt and commodity issues.

Activities

1. Parliamentary services (RB)

Parliamentary documentation: progress report to the ECA Conference of Ministers on the implementation of the Agenda by African countries.

2. Coordination, harmonization and liaison (RB)

Preparation of and substantive contribution in activities of the Inter-Agency Task Force for Africa's Critical Economic Situation, Recovery and Development (four meetings); its Working Group (five meetings); two inter-agency workshops on selected themes of African economic recovery and development; and two regional workshops on the role of non-governmental organizations in the implementation of the New Agenda and poverty alleviation policies in Africa.

Subprogramme 3. The campaign for global awareness of the critical economic situation in Africa

33.11. Activities will continue to highlight the critical situation in Africa as a major feature of the ongoing international agenda by disseminating information materials for the purpose of increasing awareness of the grave situation. The publication of the quarterly periodical Africa Recovery and other information materials will continue and efforts will be made to maintain liaison with non-donor target groups, such as parliamentarians, non-governmental organizations, media representatives, trade unions and academic institutions in order to enlist support for actions that are being undertaken or that need to be undertaken.

## Resource requirements

TABLE 33.1 SUMMARY OF 1994-1995 REQUIREMENTS BY OBJECT OF EXPENDITURE

(Thousands of United States dollars)

| | 1994-1995 initial appropriation | Resources approved for the programme under section 8 | Proposed redeployment from section 3 a/ | 1994-1995 total estimates |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Staff costs | - | 2 528.0 | 67.0 | 2 595.0 |
| Consultants and experts | - | 130.1 | 295.0 | 425.1 |
| Travel on official business | - | 141.9 | 56.5 | 198.4 |
| Contractual services | - | 267.1 | 10.0 | 277.1 |
| General operating expenses | - | 15.2 | - | 15.2 |
| Supplies and materials | - | 20.1 | - | 20.1 |
| Total | - | 3 102.4 | 428.5 | 3 530.9 |

a/ See A/C.5/48/74.

## TABLE 33.2 POST REQUIREMENTS

*Programme: Africa: critical economic situation, recovery and development*

| | *Established posts* | | *Temporary posts* | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *Regular budget* | | *Regular budget* | | *Extrabudgetary resources* | | *Total* | |
| | *1992-1993* | *1994-1995* | *1992-1993* | *1994-1995* | *1992-1993* | *1994-1995* | *1992-1993* | *1994-1995* |
| Professional category and above | | | | | | | | |
| D-2 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| D-1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| P-5 | 3 | 3 | - | - | - | - | 3 | 3 |
| P-4 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| P-3 | 1 | 2 | - | - | - | - | 1 | 2 |
| **Total** | 7 | 8 | - | - | - | - | 7 | 8 |
| General Service category | | | | | | | | |
| Principal level | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| Other levels | 4 | 4 | - | - | - | - | 4 | 4 |
| **Total** | 5 | 5 | - | - | - | - | 5 | 5 |
| **Grand total** | 12 | 13 | - | - | - | - | 12 | 13 |

## Resource requirements

### Staff costs

33.12. The staff requirements for the programme implementation include one D-2, one D-1, one P-5, one P-4, one P-3 and three General Service posts, including one at Principal level, in the Office of the Special Coordinator for Africa and Least Developed Countries in order to provide overall coordination and leadership of the United Nations system's activities in support of African economic recovery and development at the global level; one P-5 post in Addis Ababa to act as secretary of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Africa's Critical Economic Situation, Recovery and Development, located in the Office of the Executive Secretary of ECA; one P-5, one P-3 and two General Service (Other level) posts for the public information component of the programme assigned to the Department of Public Information to be responsible for the publication of the periodical Africa Recovery and other information materials.

33.13. A provision of $164,500 is included under "General temporary assistance". This provision is for the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development to undertake a study on financial intermediation systems and practices in African countries ($30,000), for the Economic Commission for Africa to facilitate the data-gathering, analysis and reporting activities relating to the New Agenda in the context of the activities of the Inter-Agency Task Force for Africa's Critical Economic Situation, Recovery and Development ($134,500).

33.14. Furthermore, within staff costs, the $103,200 provision is proposed for external expertise for research, writing and design of information materials for Africa Recovery.

### Consultants and experts

33.15. The estimated requirements ($425,100) relate to expert advice and specialized assistance in relation to the implementation of subprogrammes 1 and 2.

### Travel on official business

33.16. The estimated requirements ($198,400), relate to travel in connection with consultations and participation in inter-agency and other meetings under the work programme.

### Contractual services

33.17. The estimated requirements of $277,100 cover the costs of translation, printing and other production costs of the quarterly periodical Africa Recovery, the acquisition of visual materials and the production of the report on the causes and consequences of conflict on socio-economic development in Africa as a non-recurrent publication.

General operating expenses and supplies

33.18. The estimated requirements of $35,300 relate to the cost of freight and other services in connection with the production of Africa Recovery, and supplies in relation to information activities under the programme.

---